



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Richard DeGreef
Application No: 10/780,780
Filing Date: February 2, 2004
Title: SEWER GRATE LOCKING MECHANISM AND METHOD OF
INSTALLING SAME
Our File: MEW-105-A


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING AND COVER LETTER

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date of Deposit: April 21, 2005

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment; Certificate of Mailing and Cover Letter and a stamped Postcard, deposited with the United States Postal Service "Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 on the date indicated above and addressed to Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2815.


Rachel Snyder



IFW

Attorney Reference: MEW-105-A [5111.013]
U.R: 7/27/01:P: 4/21/05

PATENT

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AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of March 25, 2005 please enter the following remarks with respect thereto.

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment claims 1-19 remain in the application.

In the above identified Office Action the Examiner has requested restriction between the invention of Claims 1-13 and Claims 14-19. It is the Examiner's contention that these are distinct inventions, the first class of inventions being drawn to a locking mechanism for a sewer grate and the second set of claims being drawn to a method of installing a sewer grate on a frame assembly.

Applicant respectfully traverses this restriction requirement and requests the withdrawal of same.

It is respectfully submitted that in order for the Examiner to conduct the requisite full and exhaustive search mandated by the rules, that a search of not only the locking mechanism but methods of installing would have to be searched. Thus, no new work would be required on the part of the Examiner.